

RES13-031

Wilmington, Delaware
April 18, 2013

#3815

Sponsor:

Council
Member
Dorsey Walker

Co-Sponsors:

Council
Members
Cabrera
Shabazz
Walsh

WHEREAS, the "DE Repeal Project" is a coalition of organizations from the Delaware community working to abolish the death penalty; and

WHEREAS, per capita, the State of Delaware ranks third in the nation for executions, and currently has 17 men on death row; and

WHEREAS, since 1992 Delaware has conducted 16 executions, compared to California having executed only 13 men despite having the largest death row in the country; and

WHEREAS, the death penalty is often not imposed in the worst murder cases, and a person is more likely to receive a death sentence based on their race, location, or economic standing rather than on the severity of their crime; and

WHEREAS, more than a dozen states have researched the cost of the death penalty, and it has been concluded that the death penalty is more expensive than life in prison without parole; and

WHEREAS, the high cost of the death penalty diverts valuable resources from the Attorney General's Office and other law enforcement organizations, preventing the prosecution of other cases; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 19, the Death Penalty Repeal, was recently passed by an 11-10 vote by the Delaware Senate, and shall now move into the Delaware House of Representatives for a vote.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that Council fully supports Senate Bill No. 19, the Death Penalty Repeal, and further encourages the members of the House of Representatives to vote to approve the legislation.

Passed by City Council,
April 18, 2013

Approved as to form this 17th
day of April, 2013.

Attest:

Maribel Seijo
City Clerk

Thomas P. Conney
Assistant City Solicitor